Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

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DA 08-1533

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## COMMENTS INVITED ON APPLICATION OF BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. D/B/A AT&T SOUTHEAST TO DISCONTINUE DOMESTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

WC Docket No. 08-119 Comp. Pol. File No. 875

Comments Due: July 14, 2008

**Section 214 Application** 

Applicant: BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Southeast

On June 10, 2008, BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Southeast (AT&T Southeast or Applicant), located at 675 West Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta, GA 30375, filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) requesting authority, under section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214, and section 63.71 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue the provision of certain domestic telecommunications services throughout its service territory in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee (collectively Service Areas).

AT&T Southeast indicates that it currently provides Wavelength Channel Service-Dedicated System (WCS-DS) in the Service Areas. AT&T Southeast explains that WCS-DS provides high volume transparent and bit rate specific optical transport capabilities in a point-to-point configuration. AT&T Southeast states that it now intends to discontinue its provision of WCS-DS in the Service Areas due to a lack of demand. According to AT&T Southeast, the anticipated date for the proposed discontinuance is on or after July 29, 2008, after which AT&T Southeast will no longer offer the service to new customers, or offer additional capacity or new locations to existing customers. AT&T Southeast specifies that it will continue to provide this service to existing customers until their contract expires or they are migrated to another service offering. AT&T Southeast states that only one customer—an AT&T Southeast affiliate—currently subscribes to the service. AT&T Southeast maintains that it offers a comparable product, Wavelength Dedicated Ring Service, which is a more feature-rich product, offered at lower rates. AT&T Southeast states that it notified its only customer of the proposed discontinuance by letter sent via U.S. Mail on June 9, 2008. AT&T Southeast indicates that it is considered non-dominant with respect to this service in the relevant markets.

In accordance with section 63.71(c) of the Commission's rules, AT&T Southeast's application will be deemed to be granted automatically on the 31st day after the release date of this public notice, unless the Commission notifies AT&T Southeast that the grant will not be automatically effective. In AT&T Southeast's application, AT&T Southeast indicates that it anticipates discontinuing service on or after July 29, 2008. Accordingly, pursuant to section 63.71(c) and the terms of AT&T Southeast's application, absent further Commission action, AT&T Southeast may terminate its WCS-DS in the

Service Areas on or after **July 29, 2008**. The Commission normally will authorize proposed discontinuances of service unless it is shown that customers or other end users would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier, or that the public convenience and necessity would be otherwise adversely affected.

This proceeding is considered a "permit but disclose" proceeding for purposes of the Commission's ex parte rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200-1.1216. Comments objecting to this application must be filed with the Commission on or before **July 14, 2008**. Such comments should refer to **WC Docket No. 08-xx and Comp. Pol. File No. 875**. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance on the commenter, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. *See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998). Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to <a href="http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/">http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/</a>. Filers should follow the instructions provided on the Web site for submitting comments. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. In completing the transmittal screen, filers should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions for e-mail comments, filers should send an e-mail to <a href="mailto:ecfs@fcc.gov">ecfs@fcc.gov</a>, and include the following words in the body of the message, "get form." A sample form and directions will be sent in response.

Parties who choose to file by paper must send an original and four copies of the comments to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-A325, Washington, D.C. 20554. Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission. The Commission's contractor will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class mail, Express, and Priority mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Two copies of the comments should also be sent to the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-C140, Washington, D.C. 20554, Attention: Carmell Weathers. In addition, comments should be served upon the Applicant. Commenters are also requested to fax their comments to the FCC at (202) 418-1413, Attention: Carmell Weathers.

The application will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554, (202) 418-0270. A copy of the application may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington, D.C. 20554, telephone (202) 488-5300, facsimile (202) 488-5563, or via e-mail at <a href="FCC@BCPIWEB.COM">FCC@BCPIWEB.COM</a>. People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to <a href="fcc504@fcc.gov">fcc504@fcc.gov</a> or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (TTY).

For further information, contact Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), <a href="mailto:carmell.weathers@fcc.gov">carmell.weathers@fcc.gov</a>, or Matt Warner, (202) 418-2419 (voice), <a href="mailto:matthew.warner@fcc.gov">matthew.warner@fcc.gov</a>, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau. The TTY number is (202) 418-0484. For further information on procedures regarding section 214 please visit <a href="http://www.fcc.gov/wcb/cpd/other\_adjud">http://www.fcc.gov/wcb/cpd/other\_adjud</a>.

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